

Re: Herb Mols Letter of Support.

As we all go through life there is usually someone that inspires, motivates, and encourages us to standup, to be responsible, and encourages us to add some positive meaning to our life, but also, as we grow, to do the same for others that we meet and associate with during our journey through the years. Aside from our parents and grandparents some of us are fortunate enough to meet and associate with that truly special person. A person that we will always remember, and that we will try, in our own small way, to emulate. Such a man was Herb Mols, my high school coach. No one in this life is successful, or even mildly successful, without the help and encouragement from others. And I have been most fortunate for having had the privilege, and the honor, of knowing Herb.

I had the opportunity of having a total of five coaches while participating in high school sports, and a total of four coaches in college. All coaches want their student athletes to advance in the particular sport that they are coaching, but of the nine coaches that I was fortunate enough to play for, Herb was the only one that encouraged, and advanced a true meaning of life. Herb dedicated himself to “coaching the whole person”. A large part of my life has been the result of what Herb instilled in me and that is amplified by my choosing to become a teacher and coach, because I wanted to help kids the way Herb had helped me. When my wife and I, along with our three children, ages 6, 5, and 3, moved to Montana we arrived here with a total of \$157.00 and no job. So what could, or should, I do? Here was the opportunity! I could go back to school and become a teacher and coach with the goal of instilling some of the same values into the lives of some my students that Herb instilled in me. So I worked nights for two years while enrolled at the University of Montana and obtain a B A in Education, with a teaching major in Biology and a minor in Physical Education. I taught Biology and coached for four years. Herb was not only my coach but he was also my Biology teacher. I only intended to teach for a few years because I had so many things that I wanted to do, and to this day I still have a “yet to be accomplished list”. The outcome of my teaching career is that two of my students became teachers and coaches because of me, and one became a Biologist because of me. So Herb’s legacy continues on. And I still, today, find myself talking to young people at every opportunity to give them encouragement and the value of setting goals.

One additional point.

Herb mentioned to me at one time that if you have the right to complain about something, you have the obligation to do something about it. I have followed that ‘motto’ or ‘adage’ throughout my adult life, and as a result I have become involved in, and participated in, a variety of projects or ventures which has led to a productive, enjoyable, and useful life. All I can say is a sincere “thank you” Herb.

Fred G. Carl
Park School of Buffalo
Class of 1949